

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JIDDA 00632 241212Z

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

-----241217Z 021198 /17

O 241150Z JAN 77 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7002

S E C R E T JIDDA 0632

EXDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S VISIT

REF: STATE 015060

1. YOUR MESSAGE IN REFTEL HAS BEEN PASSED TO DEPUTY CHIEF OF ROYAL DIWAN KHURAIJI AND TO PRINCE SAUD'S OFFICE DIRECTOR. SUBSEQUENTLY, THEY HAVE ASSURED US THAT THE KING, CROWN PRINCE, AND PRINCE SAUD HAVE ALL BEEN INFORMED, BUT KHURAIJI SAYS THAT FRENCH PRESIDENT'S VISIT HAS SO FAR MADE IT DIFFICULT FOR THREE PRINCIPALS TO COORDINATE THEIR SCHEDULES. (PRINCE SAUD IS IN DHAHRAN TODAY, WHICH DOES NOT HELP.)

2. WE HAVE POINTED OUT TO DIWAN THAT LOCAL NEWSPAPER AL-UKAZ TODAY (JANUARY 24) WAS PREDICTING THAT SECRETARY OF STATE WOULD COME TO SAUDI ARABIA FEBRUARY 20. WHAT COULD WE SAY IN WASHINGTON IF WE WERE ASKED ABOUT SUCH A REPORT? KHURAIJI SAID SAG WAS UNHAPPY ABOUT LEAK AND WOULD MAKE EXTRA EFFORT TO GIVE US A REPLY TO YOUR MESSAGE DURING DUTY HOURS IN WASHINGTON TODAY.

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3. IT WAS HIS PERSONAL RECOMMENDATION, HOWEVER, THAT WE CONSIDER IF AT ALL POSSIBLE DELAYING ANNOUNCEMENT OF TRIP UNTIL KING KHALID HAD GIVEN THE GREEN LIGHT.

4. COMMENT: I WOULD URGE THAT WE POSTPONE THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE SECRETARY'S VISIT UNTIL TUESDAY, JANUARY 25. SAG WILL MOST CERTAINLY WELCOME THE

SECRETARY, BUT IF WE WERE TO ANNOUNCE THE VISIT BEFORE  
SAUDIS COULD COME BACK TO US, THEY MIGHT FEEL WE WERE  
PREEMPTING A DECISION WHICH IT WAS UP TO THEM AS HOSTS  
TO MAKE.  
PORTER

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Review Markings:**  
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